

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 5, 7, 9, 17, 29-30, 48-58, and 60-65, as amended, are pending in this application. In this Response, Applicants have amended certain claims. In light of the Office Action, Applicants believe these amendments serve a useful clarification purpose, and are desirable for clarification purposes, independent of patentability. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim amendments do not limit the range of any permissible equivalents.

In particular, the independent claims and several of the dependent claims have been rewritten to further clarify the language recited therein. As no new matter has been added, Applicants respectfully request entry of these remarks at this time.

THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 17, 29-30, 48-58, and 60-65 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth in the Office Action at Pages 2-3. While Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's basis for the rejection, in an effort to expedite allowance of the claims, Applicants have rewritten the independent claims and several of the dependent claims to address the Examiner's concerns.

In particular, independent claims 1, 29, 30, 61, and 63 have been rewritten such that the preamble relates to a golf ball component. Claims 5, 7, 9, and 64 have been rewritten to clarify that the golf ball component is the cover of a golf ball (claims 5 and 64) and that the method may further include placing certain inner golf ball components in the mold prior to molding the cover (claims 7 and 9).

In light of the amendments herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the § 112 rejection is overcome. As such, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that the present amendments still do not resolve all of the issues regarding patentability of the pending claims, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorneys to discuss any remaining issues.

A Petition for Extension of Time is submitted herewith to extend the time for response two months to and including March 18, 2008. No other fees are believed to be due at this time.

Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Bingham McCutchen LLP
Deposit Account No. 50-4047, Order No. 20002.0350.

Respectfully submitted,
BINGHAM McCUTCHEN LLP

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